

River Run

October 2018 Vol. 17



Young River People's Council Newsletter

National Congress of American Indians (NCAI)



My name is Caleb Dash and I am so thankful for the support you've given me to go to NCAI. By going on this trip I have been introduced to the issues and problems throughout Indian country and how other tribes have solved these issues. Also I've made many new friends and got to meet the leaders and elders and other tribes. Without the help that I've been given I would have never been given this opportunity to see how the government is run and how we Native Americans have to work together if we are to solve our issues. .

- Caleb Dash



When I first arrived to NCAI I did not know what to expect. Throughout the week of NCAI I learned a lot about problems through tribal reservations. On the first day, everyone talked about ICWA, I had no idea what it was or what it did. At the end of the day after all of the meetings surrounded ICWA I realized how important it was. ICWA protects our children, our future leaders. I thought it was crazy how ICWA was ruled unconstitutional. Eye opening how protecting our youth is unconstitutional. During one of the days at NCAI, Chloe and I had the opportunity to shadow councilman Dallas. While shadowing him during the general assembly he explained what everyone was talking about. Chloe and I voted on a resolution involving non-federally recognized tribes getting eagle feathers. It was interesting to hear what was happening during the meeting and having the opportunity to have a vote in the final resolution. Having dinner and spending time with council was so fun and my favorite thing we did this week. Special thanks to the Casey Foundation for funding me to go to NCAI and also thanks to the SRPMIC.

-Teegan Smith



This past week I had the chance to go to NCAI in Denver, Colorado. In the youth commission we met people from many different tribes and I was able to make friends with some. In the youth commission we were taught the problems we face and one of the main problems was dealing with ICWA. ICWA stands for the Indian Child Welfare Act. As a youth commission we went to meetings and learned more about it, then came together and wrote a statement which was presented at the general assembly. While being at NCAI I was also able to vote for new members of the youth commission and on the use of feathers in non-federally recognized tribes. My favorite part of the whole trip was eating with council, they are all very nice and funny. A thanks to the Casey Foundation for letting me be able to have this nice experience at NCAI.

- Chloe Johnson

NCAI



I am very grateful to have had this opportunity to go to Denver, Colorado to attend the 75th NCAI Conference. I learned lots about other youth councils and what Native youth in this day and age think is important on their reservations. Being new to youth council I learned lots on how other youth councils function. I also learned more in depth about the issues Indian Country is facing, and how NCAI approaches them. I was blessed to be around when elections were re-opened. I decided I wanted to be more involved in Indian country as a native youth, this being my first year I decided to run for secretary, and won. Their age limits are 16-23 and luckily my 16th birthday was the day after the applications were due, so I was able to run. I met lots of people and it was an overall amazing experience. I hope many others have the opportunity to attend NCAI and learn.

- Marisela Villegas

University of California - San Diego Tour

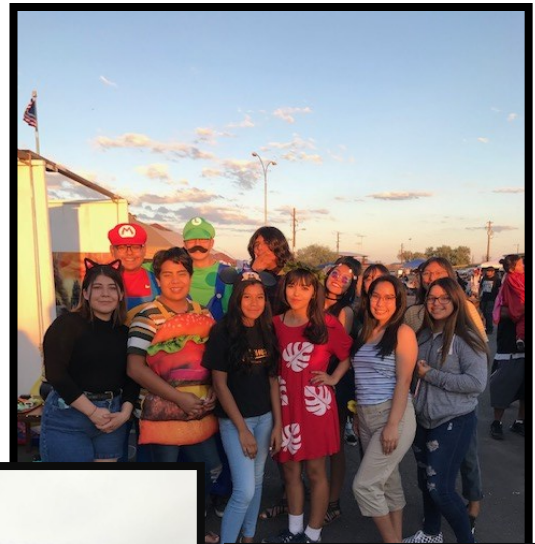


When I was at the tour UCSD we had toured a little bit of the college and to me I thought the college was different and cool. While we were touring we were also taught the history about the buildings we were around. When there we met with a native group and they talked about what they did as a group and what they had accomplished over time. The tour was really fun and cool , and I think we should do something similar to that again in the future.

- Kerstin Johnson

At the kickball with the cops we helped the cops teach the young kids about gangs, drugs, and violence and how you should always avoid those at all times. We had so much fun playing kickball with the kids and helping them win and feel victorious. The Fall Festival was a huge success as it made the community love our booth as we played video games with the kids and having laughs as well making everyone feel welcomed. These events had made us feel so happy and we'll always help support the community events.

- Casey Wood





During the Native American Recognition Day (NARD) parade other youth council members and I were handing out candy and singing traditional songs. During the parade it started to rain but we all powered through and finished the route. Everyone was very pleased with our singing. It was very fun and I look forward to next years!

- Teegan Smith



Writing the PSA was not only interesting but also sad putting together some kids reality. Filming the PSA got even more real seeing the reality come to life right in front of my eyes. Finally seeing the finished product , seeing the beginning where the husband and wife were physically hitting each other over money and drugs and its sad to say people do go through that on a daily basis. I hope people seeing the PSA brings awareness to what is going on in the community such as drug abuse and domestic violence.

- Christina Schurz



Upcoming YRPC Events and Activities

- Nov. 6— GOTV Event . All Day @ SRCB . YRPC volunteer after school
- Nov. 7— Traditional Fashion Show Meeting @ TW 4pm
- Nov. 8— YRPC Meeting @ TW 5pm (all)
- Nov. 10— Community Thanksgiving Dinner Time-TBD
- Nov . 12— Holiday
- Nov. 13— Toka Tournament Committee Meeting @4:30
- Nov. 14— Quarterly and NCAI Presentation to Council . @ TW 4pm
- Nov. 17— Orme Dam Victory Days Parade and Culture Sharing / Family Day @ WOLF-set up at 7am
- Nov. 20— Traditional Fashion Show Committee @4:30
- Nov. 22/23— Holiday
- Nov. 27— O'odham Bingo Committee @4:30
- Nov. 29— YRPC Meeting @ TW 5pm (all) / Election Notice



***For questions about joining the Young River People's Council please email Christine Porter at Christine.porter@srpmic-nsn.gov or call 480-362-7527.**

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